

# Newborn Hearing Screening



# Arizona's Newborn Hearing Screening Program

- Why Screen?
- Program Overview
- 1-3-6 Goals
- Our Strengths
- Parent Roles
- Provider Roles



# Why Screen for Hearing Loss?

- Significant hearing loss is present in 1 to 3 out of every 1,000 newborn infants
- The first months of life are a critical period for developing speech and language skills
- Babies with hearing loss who receive appropriate early intervention by six months are much more likely to speak and understand language well

# Program Components

- Parents
- Hospitals and birthing centers
- Primary Care Providers
- Audiologists
- Health Services (ADHS)
  - Follow-up
  - Education
  - Technical Assistance
- Early Intervention ASDB (AzEIP)

# 2006 Statistics

- 103,734 births in Arizona
- 98,737 births at hearing screening locations
- 97,235 babies screened for hearing (98%)
- 3,922 (4%) babies referred for 2<sup>nd</sup> test
- 35 babies with confirmed hearing loss
- All affected children were connected to appropriate services

# Authority

- **Arizona Revised Statutes §36-694**
  - State laws
  - <http://www.azleg.state.az.us/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp?Title=36>
- **Arizona Administrative Codes (Rules)**
  - How to carry out the Statutes
  - [http://www.azsos.gov/PUBLIC\\_SERVICES/Title\\_09/9-13.htm](http://www.azsos.gov/PUBLIC_SERVICES/Title_09/9-13.htm)

# 1 - 3 - 6

## Screen

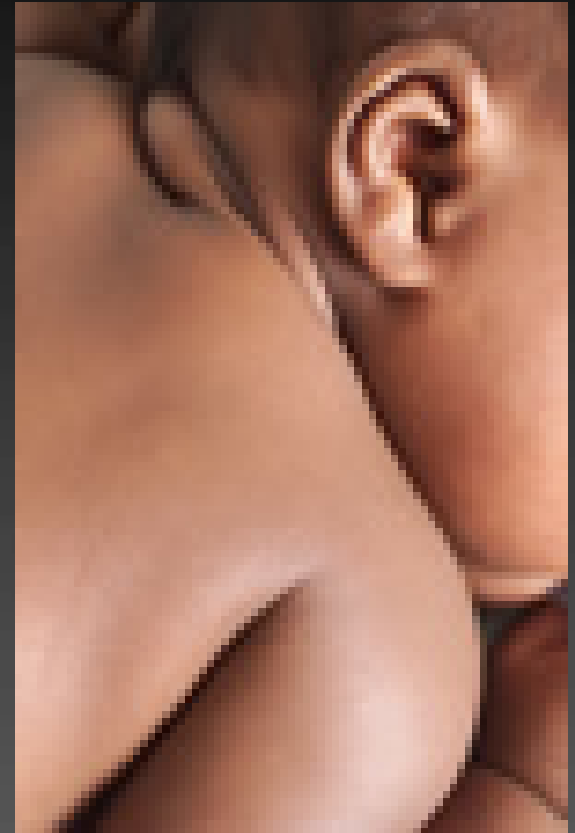
All babies at birth

## Diagnostic evaluation

Before 3 months of age

## Early Intervention

Before 6 months of age



# How Are We Doing?

- Screening by 1 month
  - >95% of all births screened by one month of age
  - Screening programs are doing an excellent job of screening
  - Meeting or exceeding national standards
  - But not always getting kids back for follow-up
- Diagnosis by 3 months
  - Improving
  - Some delays due to referral and pre-authorizations
- Early Intervention by 6 months
  - Those that are identified do well
  - Too many lost to follow-up between screening and diagnosis



# Strengths

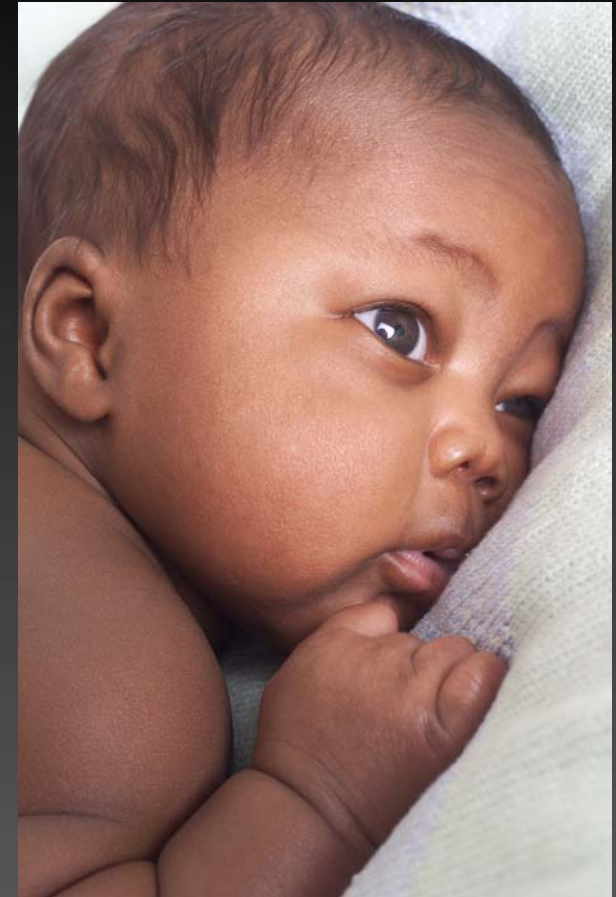
- Dedicated, talented and persistent screening programs
- Supportive physicians
- Skilled pediatric audiologists
- Excellent resources for early identification, hearing aid fitting, cochlear implants
- Our new Clinical Educator
- Dedicated, talented and skilled Early Intervention Services

# Strengths

- Outcomes!
- Strong community support including agencies like:
  - Arizona Department of Health Services
  - Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing
  - Arizona Schools for the Deaf and the Blind
  - Arizona Early Intervention Program and others
- More collaborative spirit than any other state

# Early Intervention

- AzEIP (Part C of Federal IDEA program)
- Arizona Schools for the Deaf and the Blind serves all Deaf and Hard of Hearing through parent outreach program
- Statewide
- Home-Based
- Family Centered
- O-3 years of age



# Impact of EHDI



- More than 150% increase in caseloads
- Average length of time in program increased from 0.5 years to 2.5 years
- Significant changes in outcomes

# Language Outcomes

- Arizona Study by ASDB
- All children born 2000-2003 enrolled in EI
- Developmental Profiles-CDI
- Significant difference in expressive and receptive language based on age of identification

# Parent Roles

- Ensure your child is screened for hearing before leaving the hospital
- Ensure results are written on the back of the immunization record
- Bring the immunization record to your baby's doctor
- Expect your baby to be referred for more tests
- Don't miss any appointments



# Provider Roles

- Ensure all patients are screened for hearing
- Ensure rapid referrals to pediatric audiologists. Most audiologists can not make appointments until referral is received
- Send results of screenings performed in your offices to the ADHS follow-up staff within one week
- Contact ADHS Newborn Screening for results, if needed

# Provider Roles

- If unfamiliar with hearing loss, ask ADHS
- Maintain a current list of specialists for referrals (ADHS can provide you with a list)
- Remember the 1-3-6 goals





# Arizona Newborn Screening

## Phone

- (602) 364-1409
- (800) 548-8381 (outside Maricopa County)

## Fax

- (602) 364-1495

## Website

- [www.AZNewborn.com](http://www.AZNewborn.com)



# Arizona Department of Health Services

Thank You!